

# Human Services

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## Program Goal

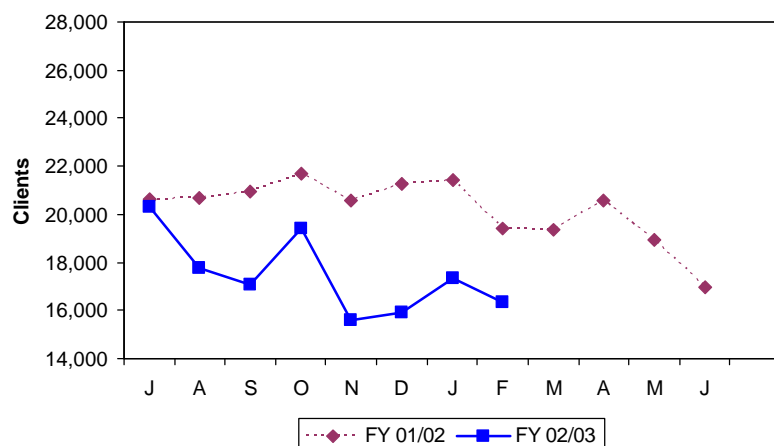
The Human Services Department provides a wide array of services that promote the economic, physical, and social well being of residents by promoting self-sufficiency.

## Key Services

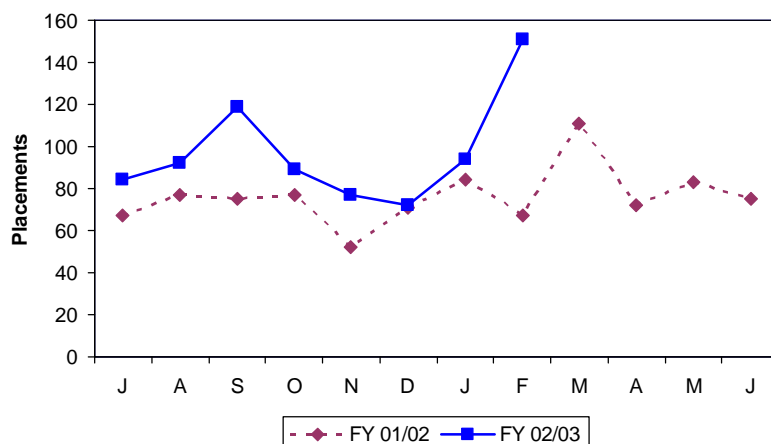
Adult Employment and Training, Summer Youth Employment, Head Start Services, Emergency Family Assistance, Senior Services, Congregate and Home Delivered Meals, Reserve-A-Ride, Homeless and Emergency Shelters, and Volunteer Coordination.

Phone 602-262-6666

**Number of Clients Served**

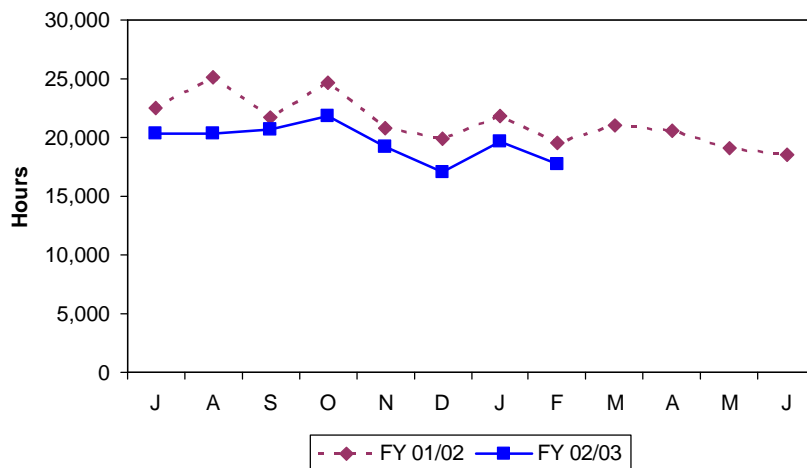


**Number of Employment Placements**

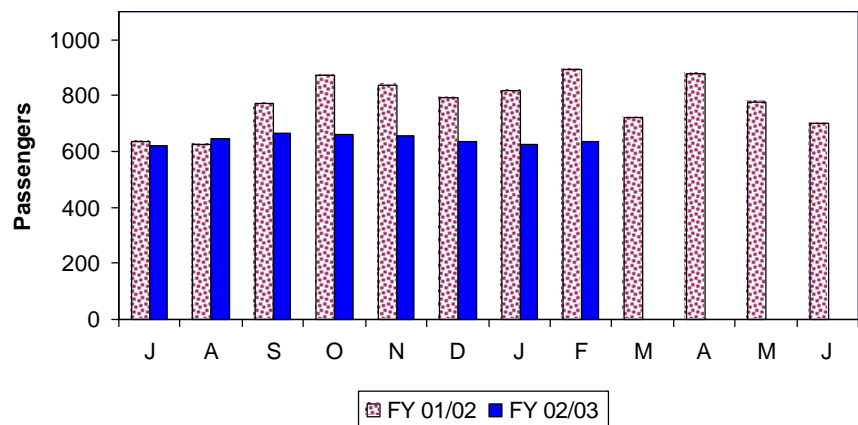


Human Services  $\frac{3}{4}$  continued

Average Number of Community Volunteer Hours

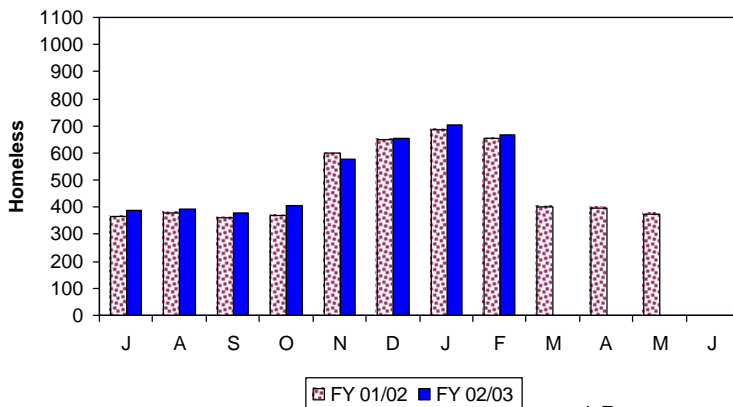


Daily (Average) Number of Reserve-A-Ride Passengers

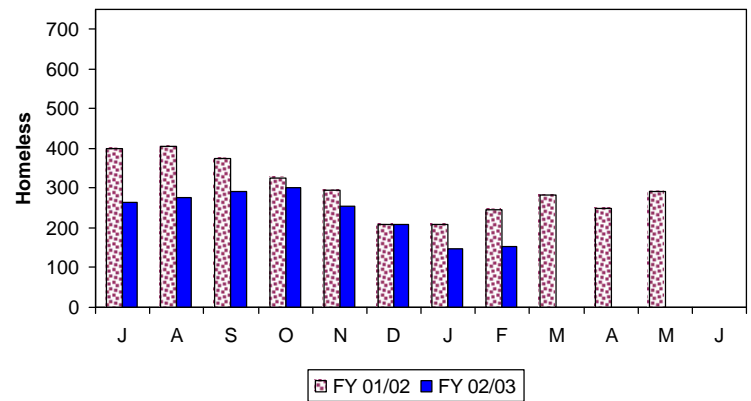


Human Services  $\frac{3}{4}$  continued

Downtown Homeless Population - Sheltered\*

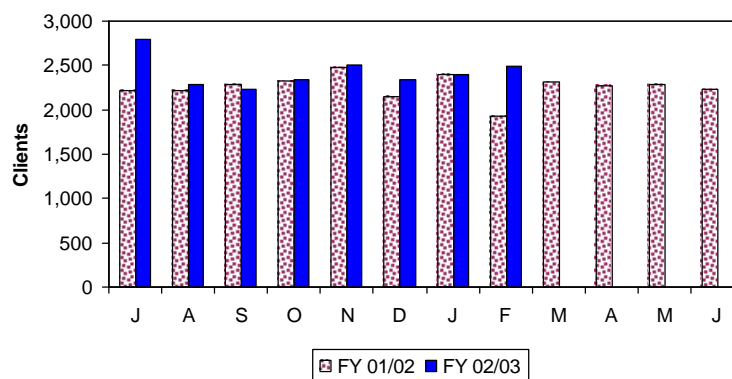


Downtown Homeless Population-Unsheltered\*



\* Data represents a one day "Snapshot" by the Police Department

Senior Clients Receiving Daily Meals (Average)



**Human Services <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> continued****Comments/Highlights****HIGHLIGHTS:****Community Services Division**

Staff participated in organizing and implementing the first statewide street count of persons who are homeless and living on the streets on February 27, 2003. The count was performed as part of a statewide effort to collect an unduplicated number of persons who are homeless in Arizona on any given night. Data will be utilized to bring money for homeless housing and services to Arizona.

In the month of February, the Winter Overflow Shelter Program served 53 unduplicated homeless families consisting of 171 family members; 450 unduplicated single men; and 48 unduplicated single women. 290 bednights were provided to families, and 8,707 bednights were provided to single individuals.

During February, the Winter Respite Program collected 204 blankets, 120 jackets, 329 sweaters/sweatshirts, 3 pairs of gloves, 115 pairs of socks, 195 pairs of long pants, 39 pairs of shoes, 61 hats and 376 other items including bath towels and t-shirts for a total of over 1,442 donated items. The items are distributed to homeless persons living on the streets and staying at the Winter Overflow Shelter program.

**Senior Services Division**

On February 4, the Chinese Senior Center hosted the Year of the Ram Celebration, in which Marcos de Niza and Desert West Senior Center participated. Entertainment included the traditional lion dance, a Tai Chi demonstration, and performance by the senior dance troupe. There were approximately 200 senior center participants at this event.

On February 11, the South Mountain Community Center celebrated Black History Month. A participant and family sang related songs to the group. Some of the participants assisted with readings regarding black inventors, Harriet Tubman, and the Tuskegee Airman. The celebration was very inspiring and ended with the Bible Studies class singing a few songs including "We Shall Overcome."

**Workforce Connection Division**

Staff and other partners attended the Jobing.com Career expo held on February 10, 2003, at the Civic Plaza. Approximately 4,000 job seekers and 180 employers attended this event.

Staff has conducted six information sessions to approximately 240 impacted employees of the Arizona Credit Service Center. Information was provided on the One Stop services, Unemployment Insurance, and JOB Services. Staff will provide one-on-one career counseling both onsite and by appointment.

Staff attended a meeting of the Employability Skills Team. This team was formed at the 2002 Workforce Forum. Information on pre-employment assessments and job readiness preparation will be provided to local businesses at the Greater Workforce Forum 2003 scheduled for March 18, 2003 at the Civic Plaza. The Forum is coordinated by Community Economic Development Department (CEDD).

The recruitment efforts for the Youthbuild program have been very successful. Well over 100 young people applied for the program. Fifty-Five (55) potential trainees have been identified as program eligible through a series of interviews. The large number of applicants allowed the Youthbuild staff to refer approximately 40 applicants to selected WIA sites. Applications are still being accepted and a waiting list was established for interested parties.

**Human Services <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> continued****Comments/Highlights Cont.****Education Division**

Staff and Head Start fathers participated in the 4th Annual Southwestern Fatherhood Conference February 6-7, 2003 at the Phoenix Airport Marriott. Approximately 300 participants from a wide range of disciplines and programs attended the event. The purpose of the conference is to enhance the efforts of practitioners, professionals, and parents in the area of fatherhood initiatives and programs. Keynote speakers and presenters came from across the country to provide valuable information and resources with local, national, and international participants.

On Wednesday February 5, 2003, approximately 240 Head Start children with disabilities and special medical needs participated in the fourth annual Diamondbacks Spring Training for special pre-school athletes. The morning began with an opening ceremony in which Vice Mayor Greg Stanton spoke about the Head Start program and its importance in providing comprehensive services to over 3000 children and their families. Each child participated in baseball-related activities such as t-ball, a hot-dog relay, base running, play, and catching. Each child was coached by a player in all the activities. The Diamondbacks players who coached were Junior Spivey, Rod Barajas, Quinton McCracken, Chad Moeller, Stephen Randolph, Eddie Rodriguez and Armando Reynoso.

Following the president's announcement that he intends to move Head Start into the Department of Education and funding to the States, National Head Start (NHSA) moved quickly to generate support on Capital Hill to retain the program in the Department of Health and Human Services. As a first step, NHSA helped draft a "Dear Colleague" Letter that is being circulated by Congresswoman Loretta Sanchez (D-California) in the House of Representatives. The letter expresses strong opposition to block granting Head Start to the States and the Department of Education move. The letter is being circulated to all members of Congress to demonstrate opposition to this proposed piece of Legislation. Members of Congress had until Friday, February 14, 2003 to sign onto the Head Start "Dear Colleague" Letter.